

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 1. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Figure 1.

Attachments: Replacement sheet for FIG. 1,
 Annotated sheet showing changes for FIG. 1

REMARKS

By virtue of the foregoing amendment, claim 15 has been amended to delete the objected to phrase. Also, Figure 1 has been corrected to more clearly indicate that the number 8 refers to a blood filter unit as described at page 16, line 3 of the original specification.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings and the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112 are respectfully requested. As a result of the foregoing amendment, Figure 1 has been amended to make it clear that the number 8 refers to the blood filter unit theater which is described at page 16 of the original specification as filed. There can be no question but that one skilled in the art reviewing Figure 1 and the description at page 16 would understand that this is a device for feeding the blood filter units in the direction of the arrow shown in the drawing. Accordingly, the objection to the drawing is no longer warranted and should be withdrawn.

Turning to the rejection of Claims 11 through 19 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, it is submitted that this rejection is without basis. The recitation in claim 19 that the device contains means for moving the blood collecting tube which contained the blood filter unit in a vertical direction does not constitute new matter in this application.

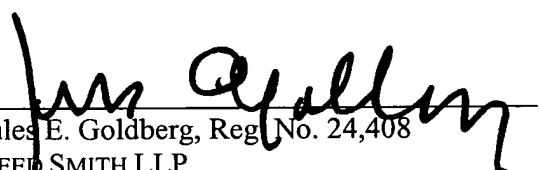
Firstly, the original Figure 2 showed clamp 70 as designated on page 6, line 1 as being the means for moving the tubes in the vertical direction as indicated by the arrow in Figure 2. Secondly, the device is described at page 16, lines 21-24 which makes it clear that the vacuum blood collecting 26 is grasped by clamp 72 as shown. One skilled in this art would fully understand that the means for moving the vacuum blood collecting tube in a vertical

direction is clamp 70. It is unnecessary to show the specific mechanism for moving clamp 70 up and down because such means are well-known to the person of skill in this art. The attempted analogy by the Examiner of describing a method of tying shoelaces but not disclosing an apparatus for tying shoelaces is not well taken. Here the apparatus used for moving the blood collecting two in a vertical direction is disclosed and described in detail. It is also included in the drawing. More is not required in order to comply with the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112. The Examiner's assertion that the device referenced by a character 70 corresponds to the function of moving the collecting two vertically is incorrect. Rather, this device is the means for moving the collecting two vertically. Accordingly, the Examiner's objections and rejection of the claims on the basis of the drawings being inadequate is untenable and should be withdrawn.

The Examiner's indication that the claims are free of the prior art is appreciatively acknowledged. Accordingly, in view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration and prompt notice of allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Fig. 1

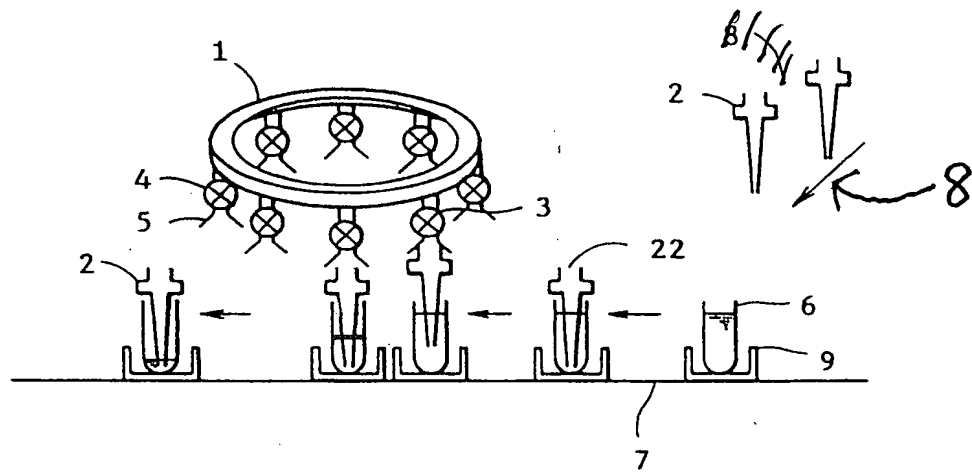


Fig. 2

